of enrollment and disenrollment without cause in §§ 434.26 and 434.27(b), during the effective period of the waiver, including extensions and renewals.

[55 FR 51295, Dec. 13, 1990, as amended at 61 FR 69050, Dec. 31, 1996]

Subpart E—Contracts with HMOs and PHPs: Medicaid Agency Responsibilities

SOURCE: 48 FR 54020, Nov. 20, 1983, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 55 FR 51295, Dec. 13, 1990.

§ 434.50 Proof of HMO or PHP capability.

The agency must obtain from each contractor proof of—

(a) Financial responsibility, including proof of adequate protection against insolvency; and

(b) The contractor's ability to provide the services under the contract efficiently, effectively, and economically.

[48 FR 54020, Nov. 30, 1983; 48 FR 55128, Dec. 9, 1983]

§ 434.52 Furnishing of required services.

The agency must obtain assurances from each contractor that—

(a) It furnishes the health services required by enrolled recipients as promptly as is appropriate; and

(b) The services meet the agency's quality standards.

§ 434.53 Periodic medical audits.

(a) The agency must establish a system of periodic medical audits to insure that each contractor furnishes quality and accessible health care to enrolled recipients.

(b) The system of periodic medical audits must—

(1) Provide for audits conducted at least once a year for each contractor;

(2) Identify and collect management data for use by medical audit personnel; and

(3) Provide that the data includes—

(i) Reasons for enrollment and termination; and

(ii) Use of services.

§ 434.57 Limit on payment to other providers.

The agency must ensure that, except as specified in § 434.30(b) for emergency services, no payment is made for services furnished by a provider other than the contractor, if the services were available under the contract.

§ 434.59 Continued service to recipients whose enrollment is terminated.

The agency must arrange for Medicaid services without delay for any recipient whose enrollment is terminated, unless it is terminated because of ineligibility for Medicaid.

§ 434.61 Computation of capitation fees.

The agency must determine that the capitation fees and any other payments provided for in the contract are computed on an actuarially sound basis.

§ 434.63 Monitoring procedures.

The agency must have procedures to do the following:

(a) Monitor enrollment and termination practices.

(b) Ensure proper implementation of the contractor's grievance procedures.

(c) Monitor for violations of the requirements specified in § 434.67 and the conditions necessary for FFP in contracts with HMOs specified in § 434.80.

[59 FR 36084, July 15, 1994]

§ 434.65 Services included in the State plan but not covered by the contract.

If the contract does not cover all services available under the State plan, the agency must arrange for services not included to be available and accessible. This may be done by having the contractor refer enrolled recipients to other providers or by some other means.

§ 434.67 Sanctions against HMOs with risk comprehensive contracts.

(a) *Basis for imposition of sanctions.* The agency may recommend that the intermediate sanction specified in paragraph (e) of this section be imposed if the agency determines that an HMO with a risk comprehensive contract does one or more of the following:

(1) Fails substantially to provide the medically necessary items and services required under law or under the contract to be provided to an enrolled recipient and the failure has adversely affected (or has substantial likelihood of adversely affecting) the individual.

(2) Imposes on Medicaid enrollees premium amounts in excess of premiums permitted.

(3) Engages in any practice that discriminates among individuals on the basis of their health status or requirements for health care services, including expulsion or refusal to reenroll an individual, or any practice that could reasonably be expected to have the effect of denying or discouraging enrollment (except as permitted by section 1903(m) of the Act) by eligible individuals whose medical conditions or histories indicate a need for substantial future medical services.

(4) Misrepresents or falsifies information that it furnishes, under section 1903(m) of the Act to HCFA, the State agency, an individual, or any other entity.

(5) Fails to comply with the requirements of §§ 417.479(d) through (g) of this chapter relating to physician incentive plans, or fails to submit to the State Medicaid agency its physician incentive plans as required or requested in § 434.70.

(b) *Effect of an agency determination.* (1) When the agency determines that an HMO with a risk comprehensive contract has committed one of the violations identified in paragraph (a) of this section, the agency must forward this determination to HCFA. This determination becomes HCFA's determination for purposes of section 1903(m)(5)(A) of the Act, unless HCFA reverses or modifies the determination within 15 days.

(2) When the agency decides to recommend imposition of the sanction specified in paragraph (e) of this section, this recommendation becomes HCFA's decision, for purposes of section 1903(m)(5)(B)(ii) of the Act, unless HCFA rejects this recommendation within 15 days.

(c) *Notice of sanction.* If a determination to impose a sanction becomes HCFA's determination under paragraph (b)(2) of this section, the agency must send a written notice to the HMO stating the nature and basis of the proposed sanction. A copy of the notice is forwarded to the OIG at the same time it is sent to the HMO. The agency allows the HMO 15 days from the date it receives the notice to provide evidence that it has not committed an act or failed to comply with a requirement described in paragraph (a) of this section, as applicable. The agency may allow a 15-day addition to the original 15 days upon receipt of a written request from the organization. To be approved, the request must provide a credible explanation of why additional time is necessary and be received by HCFA before the end of the 15-day period following the date the organization received the sanction notice. An extension is not granted if HCFA determines that the organization's conduct poses a threat to an enrollee's health and safety.

(d) *Informal reconsideration.* (1) If the HMO submits a timely response to the agency's notice of sanction, the agency conducts an informal reconsideration that includes—

(i) Review of the evidence by an agency official who did not participate in the initial recommendation to impose the sanction; and

(ii) A concise written decision setting forth the factual and legal basis for the decision.

(2) The agency decision under paragraph (d)(1)(ii) of this section is forwarded to HCFA and becomes HCFA's decision unless HCFA reverses or modifies the decision within 15 days from the date of HCFA's receipt of the agency determination. In the event HCFA modifies or reverses the agency decision, the agency sends the HMO a copy of HCFA's decision under this paragraph.

(e) *Denial of payment.* If a HCFA determination that a HMO has committed a violation described in paragraph (a) of this section is affirmed on review under paragraph (d) of this section, or is not timely contested by the HMO under paragraph (c) of this section, HCFA, based upon the recommendation of the agency, may deny payment for new enrollees of the HMO under section 1903(m)(5)(B)(ii) of the Act. Under §§ 434.22 and 434.42, HCFA's

denial of payment for new enrollees automatically results in a denial of agency payments to the HMO for the same enrollees. A new enrollee is an enrollee that applies for enrollment after the effective date in paragraph (f)(1) of this section.

(f) *Effective date and duration of sanction.* (1) Except as specified in paragraphs (f)(2) and (f)(3) of this section, a sanction is effective 15 days after the date the HMO is notified of the decision to impose the sanction under paragraph (c) of this section.

(2) If the HMO seeks reconsideration under paragraph (d) of this section, the sanction is effective on the date specified in HCFA's reconsideration notice.

(3) If HCFA, in consultation with the agency, determines that the HMO's conduct poses a serious threat to an enrollee's health and safety, the sanction may be made effective on a date prior to issuance of the decision under paragraph (d)(1)(ii) of this section.

(g) *Civil money penalties.* If a determination that an organization has committed a violation under paragraph (a) of this section becomes HCFA's determination under paragraph (b)(1) of this section, HCFA conveys the determination to the OIG. In accordance with the provisions of 42 CFR part 1003, the OIG may impose civil money penalties on the organization in addition to or in place of the sanctions that may be imposed under this section.

(h) *HCFA's role.* HCFA retains the right to independently perform the functions assigned to the agency in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this section.

(i) *State Plan requirements.* The State Plan must include a plan to monitor for violations specified in paragraph (a) of this section and for implementing the provisions of this section.

[59 FR 36084, July 15, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 13449, Mar. 27, 1996]

Subpart F—Federal Financial Participation

SOURCE: 48 FR 54020, Nov. 20, 1983, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 55 FR 51295, Dec. 13, 1990.

§ 434.70 Condition for FFP.

(a) FFP is available in expenditures for payments to contractors only for the periods that—

(1) The contract—

(i) Meets the requirements of this part;

(ii) Meets the appropriate requirements of 45 CFR part 74; and

(iii) Is in effect;

(2) The HMO or HIO complies with the physician incentive plan requirements specified in §§ 417.479(d) through (g) of this chapter and the requirements related to subcontracts set forth at § 417.479(i) of this chapter if the subcontract is for the provision of services to Medicaid recipients;

(3) The HMO, HIO (or, in accordance with § 417.479(i) of this chapter, the subcontracting entity) has supplied the information on its physician incentive plan listed in § 417.479(h)(1) of this chapter to the State Medicaid agency. The information must contain detail sufficient to enable the State to determine whether the plan complies with the requirements of § 417.479 (d) through (g) of this chapter. The HMO or HIO must supply the information required under § 417.479 (h)(l)(i) through (h)(1)(v) of this chapter to the State Medicaid agency as follows:

(i) Prior to approval of its contract or agreement.

(ii) Upon the contract or agreements anniversary or renewal effective date.

(4) The HMO or HIO has provided the information on physician incentive plans listed in § 417.479(h)(3) of this chapter to any Medicaid recipient who requests it.

(b) HCFA may withhold FFP for any period during which—

(1) The State fails to meet the State plan requirements of this part;

(2) Either party to a contract substantially fails to carry out the terms of the contract; or

(3) The State fails to obtain from each HMO or HIO contractor proof that it meets the requirements for physician incentive plans specified in §§ 417.479(d) through (g) and (i) of this chapter.

[61 FR 13449, Mar. 27, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 69050, Dec. 31, 1996]